Che Intelligencer.

HEART AND HAND.

I think you will be sorry, Alma. Sorry? Sorry for what? Sorry of I have shaken off an engage was becoming a perfect slavery

t exactly scolding, but finding quiet way. I don't know but -comings as long as my The fact is, Aunt Mercy, on good for me. He ought

Released from the library, out of her before the remonstrance she saw in herey's face could be uttered, the little beauty spech away to her own lerey's face could be uttered, the little beauty spech away to her own levely face could be uttered, the little beauty spech away to her own levely face of the staircase, and blindly groped her way to her own room. Once within that sanctum, secure from intrusion, pride fell prostrate before the great to her heart that would pain in her heart that would increased herself carefully, saying pers to her heart. 'He will come night, and—and perhaps, if he is ry he will make up again.'

I blue poplin he admired was put pretty lace he loved nestled the white throat, and when all is donned with an especial care, ethought her of her bouquet. She own it pettishly into a corner in the floor, and, lifting them, sat the fadde lair. Perhaps one of the searlet may be loved to see among their bright her of her bouquet. She was that he loved to see among the prish make was yet bright enough intent. Rather slowly the young it to the corner where the flowers in the floor, and, lifting them, sat search for one fresh one. Not she corner where the flowers in the floor, and, lifting them, sat someting glittering tied secures the hare stems, she saw that, as someting glittering tied secures he heart of the bouquet. Wondle untiled the jewel and sliped her fingure. It was a ring of device—two hearts of puce gold, yo a turquoise forget-me-not, in tri of which nestled a sparking d. Something as clear and bright immod gleamed, for a moment, as check, as she softly pressed her height. Other the heart of the bouquet. Wondle untiled the jewel. 'Deart Leon, how much me! Oh, if I could be all he and keep down this hasty temper.' 'Already the quarrel had he matter of deep regret, and title them? Was ready for recon, when the tea bell put an end to the file heart was ready for recon, when the table but an end feed of the wind the provided that the health of the family, had and keep down this hasty temper t

ciliation, when the tea bell put an end to Alma's day dreaming.

She was a spoiled little beauty, this warm learted, quick tempered Alma Crofts, motherless from her infancy, the idol of a loving father, the belle of her native town, with whom no one could be anyry spite of her thousand caprices. From the time when Annt Mercy gave her the 'coming out' party, and thus introduced her to society, Alma had been the center of attraction among her large circle of irends. Her piquant beauty, a perfect brunette in the jetty, glossy hair and great black eyes, her complexion rivaled that of the blondes, and her tiny, graceful little figure was as full of life as that of a fairy. The object of admiration, and dy. I have always thought that if she great black eyes, fer complexion trivaled that of the blands, and the trivy, agrees, and little figure was as full of life as that the blands of the property of the property

office this alternoon, to accept a position which six months ago he declined, because he did not wish to leave home."
"What position?" Her lips would whiten and quiver in spite of all her effects.

forts.
"The agency for the business in California My agent there wishes to return here, and is only waiting for some one to be sent in his place to give up the position. Theere are very lew who could take that place, but Leon is one of the few."

"He waited for her to speak, but she sa with her face half averted, silent, "I was pained, Alma, more pained that I can express, when he told me that thi

I late acceptance of my offer was caused by
the rupture of your engagement. I rel spected Leon, and had hoped to call him
my son, and when I heard that you had
been mistaken in your feeling for him, I
sorrowed for my own disappointment as
well as his. Do not think, my child, that,
I wish to force your affection; you are the
best judge of what will make you happy,
but I am sorry you were so hasty, for I
fear you have given a deep, lasting wound
to a true, noble heart.
Pride and love! Here the two were battling in Alma's heart, but pride was still
uppermost. late acceptance of my offer was caused b

"And he is going to California?" Sh

said it in steady, even tones, too calm to be entirely natural. Mere friendly increst would have given more animation to the measured words.

measured words.

"He has gone!"

"Gone?" There was pain then in the sudden cry.

"Yes, he left for New York this afternoon, and will take the steamer that salls to-morrow. Alma, Alma, do not tell me you mistook your own heart when you next him away."

sked for a flower. Of course I one, and Leon chose to imagine it with a manner that might to attach a sigificance to the sourse there was a lecture waite as we came home. One word other, till finally I told him than try of his continual fault finding, d better look further for a wife, it combine all the perfections of ith the patience of an angel. As sas aware that I could never as character."

Alma! And you part so?"
We were just at home, and harwewil on the steps, and went won't be bound down so strictly every word and look. I am sure fittations now and then are not leasts crimes, but I have to be free again.

Georetic recount for every one. I am sefree again.

Released from the library, out of her father's sight, Alma staggered rather than walked to the staircase, and blindly groped for the remonstrance she saw in effect on the course of the

of a fairy. The object of admiration, and fly. I have always thought that is she the recipient of attention from a number would use her mind, she would prove to

and directed in a delicate handwriting, only too familiar to him. He tore it open hastily. Inside there

He tore it open hastily. Inside there was a photograph card, wrapped in a piece of while paper, and upon the card was written "St. Valentine." What was the photograph? Was it his darling's face wooing him home again? His strong right hand trembled as he unfolded the paper. And this was his Valentine: Upon a cushion of black velvet rested a small white hand. There was nothing else, save that exculsit hand fill. rested a small white hand. There was nothing else, save that exquisit hand filing the space upon the card, but upon one finger of the little hand rested the ring, whose device was two hearts joined by forget-me-not. Love was quick to guess the riddle

York,

It was a quiet meeting, hearts too full
for noisy greetings, but when a few weeks
later Leon Harris slipped a wedding
ring upon Alma's little hand, he knew
that fully and entirely he possessed her
heart.

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In Chancery,

Robert A. Howard and others.

To Martha Sheliar, Charles Sheliar, Mary Ann Howard, James Howard, William Howard, Hendonard, William Howard, Willia

August 3, 1870.
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